Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) A method for dynamically allocating signal processing resources in a wireless multichannel broadband base station (BBS) for a cellular communications network, said method comprising the steps of:

determining a number of pooled available channel processors ~~(CP) resources~~ which are unused in said BBS, said BBS supporting a plurality of cells, each of said available channel processors ~~CP resources~~ capable of processing any of a plurality of traffic channels contained on any frequency channel assigned to said BBS;

in response to notification of a call originating from or to a subscriber in any of said plurality of cells, determining if said number of available channel processors ~~CP resources~~ of said BBS is at least one;

selecting any of said available channel processors ~~CP~~ ~~resources~~ for processing of said call; and

assigning said call to said available channel processor ~~CP resource~~ which has been selected.

2. (currently amended) The method according to claim 1 further comprising the step of decrementing the number of available channel processors ~~CP resources~~ by one after said assigning step.

3. (currently amended) The method according to claim 1 further comprising the step of rejecting said call if all channel processors ~~CP resources~~ of said BBS are in use.

4. (currently amended) The method according to claim 3 further comprising the step of incrementing a count of rejected calls each time a call is rejected for lack of sufficient available channel processors ~~CP resources~~.

5. (currently amended) The method according to claim 1 wherein said number of available channel processors ~~CP resources is~~ are determined by counting the total number of channel processors ~~CP resources~~ assigned to said BBS, and decrementing said total number by at least one of, a total number of active subscriber calls in a BBS and the number of channel processors ~~CP resources~~ assigned for handling control channel traffic in said BBS.

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6. (currently amended) The method according to claim 1 further comprising the step of incrementing said number of available channel processors ~~CP resources~~ in said cell when said call is terminated.

7. (currently amended) The method according to claim 1 further comprising the steps of:

handing over said call from a first cell of said BBS to a target cell of said BBS; and

continuing to process said call on said available channel processor ~~CP resource~~ which has been selected and assigned prior to said step of handing over said call to said target cell.

8. (currently amended) A resource management system for dynamically allocating signal ~~processing resources~~ processors in a wireless multichannel broadband base station (BBS) for a cellular communications network, comprising:

means for determining a number of available pooled channel processors ~~(CP) resources~~ which are unused in said BBS, said BBS supporting a plurality of cells, each of said available channel processors ~~CP resources~~ capable of processing any of a plurality of traffic channels contained on any frequency channel assigned to said BBS;

means responsive to notification of a call originating from or to a subscriber in any of said plurality of cells for determining if said number of available channel processors ~~CP resources~~ is at least one;

C1 means for selecting any of said available channel processors ~~CP resources~~ for processing of said call; and

means for assigning said call to said available channel processor ~~CP resource~~ which has been selected.

9. (currently amended) The system according to claim 8 further comprising means for decrementing the number of available channel processors ~~CP resources~~ by one after said assigning step.

10. (currently amended) The system according to claim 8 further comprising means for rejecting said call if all channel processors ~~CP resources~~ of said BBS are in use.

11. (currently amended) The system according to claim 10 further comprising means for incrementing a count of rejected calls each time a call is rejected for lack of sufficient available channel processors ~~CP resources~~.

12. (currently amended) The system according to claim 8 wherein said means for determining a number of available channel processors ~~CP resources~~ which are unused in said BBS further includes means for counting the total number of channel processors ~~CP resources~~ assigned to said BBS, and decrementing said total number by at least one of, a total number of active subscriber calls in said BBS and the number of channel processors ~~CP resources~~ assigned for handling control channel traffic in said BBS.

13. (currently amended) The system according to claim 8 further comprising means for incrementing said number of available channel processors ~~CP resources~~ in said cell when said call is terminated.

14. (currently amended) The system according to claim 8 further comprising:

means for handing over said call from a first cell of said BBS to a target cell of said BBS; and

means for continuing to process said call on said available channel processor ~~CP resource~~ as previously selected, after handing over said call to said target cell.

15. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said BBS is a sectorized BBS, said sectorized BBS supporting a plurality of sectors.

16. (previously presented) The system of claim 8, wherein said BBS is a sectorized BBS, said sectorized BBS supporting a plurality of sectors.

17. (previously presented) The system of claim 16, wherein said BBS comprises a plurality of broadband transceivers.

18. (currently amended) A method for dynamically allocating signal ~~processing resources~~ processors in a wireless multichannel broadband base station (BBS) for a cellular communications network, said method comprising the steps of:

allocating to a transceiver assigned to a cell a first plurality of channel processors ~~(CP) resources~~ for processing traffic channels contained on a frequency channel;

in response to notification of a call originating from or to a subscriber in said cell, determining if there is at least one of said first plurality of channel processors ~~CP resources~~ that is available for processing said call;

assigning said call to any one of said first plurality of channel processors ~~CP resources~~ that is available.

19. (currently amended) The method according to claim 18 further comprising the step of assigning at least a second plurality of channel processors ~~CP resources~~ to said transceiver responsive to said determining step if there is not an available one of said plurality of channel processors ~~CP resources~~ among said first plurality of channel processors ~~CP resources~~.

20. (currently amended) The method according to claim 18 further comprising the step of rejecting said call if all of said channel processors ~~CP resources~~ assigned to said transceiver are in use and there are no further channel processors ~~CP resources~~ available to be allocated to said transceiver.

21. (currently amended) The method according to claim 18 further comprising the step of incrementing a number of available channel processors ~~CP resources~~ in said cell when said call is terminated.

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22. (currently amended) The method according to claim 18 further comprising the step of decrementing a number of available channel processors ~~CP resources~~ in said cell when said call is assigned to one of said channel processors ~~CP resources~~.

23. (currently amended) A resource management system for dynamically allocating signal processing resources in a wireless multichannel broadband base station (BBS) for a cellular communications network, comprising:

means for allocating to a transceiver assigned to a cell a first plurality of channel processors ~~(CP) resources~~, each of said channel processors ~~CP resources~~ capable of processing traffic channels contained on a frequency channel assigned to said transceiver;

means responsive to a notification of a call originating from or to a subscriber in said cell, for determining if there is an available one of said first plurality of channel processors ~~CP resources~~ that is available for processing said call;

means for assigning said call to said available one of said first plurality of channel processors ~~CP resources~~.